1	BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO					
2						
3	Jeff Slusser, :					
4	Complainant, :					
5	vs. : Case No. 12-1259-GA-CSS					
6	The East Ohio Gas :					
7	Company d/b/a Dominion : East Ohio, :					
8	Respondent. :					
9						
10	PROCEEDINGS					
11						
12	before Mr. Kerry K. Sheets, Hearing Examiner, at the					
13	Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, 180 East Broad					
14	Street, Room 11-C, Columbus, Ohio, called at					
15	10:07 a.m. on Tuesday, December 11, 2012.					
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1	APPEARANCES:				
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3	By Mr. Gregory L. Williams 88 East Broad Street, Suite 1590				
4	Columbus, Ohio 43215				
5	On behalf of The East Ohio Gas Company d/b/a Dominion East Ohio.				
6	ALSO PRESENT:				
7	Mr. Jeff Slusser				
8	Mr. Sam Slusser				
9	Ms. Ella Hochstetler Ms. Roxie Edwards				
10	Ms. Marilyn Starks				
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1 Tuesday Morning Session, 2 December 11, 2012. 3 4 HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: I'll go ahead 5 and call the hearing. The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio has set for hearing at this time 6 7 and place, December 11, 2012, Case No. 8 12-1259-GA-CSS, the matter of Jeff Slusser versus 9 Dominion East Ohio. My name is Kerry Sheets. I'm an attorney examiner for the Commission, and I've been 10 11 assigned to hear this case. 12 We'll now have the appearances of the 13 parties, please, starting with the complainant. Give your name and your address. 14 15 MR. JEFF SLUSSER: Jeff Slusser, 16 1740 Westwood Circle, Wooster, Ohio 44691. 17 HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: Thank you. For 18 the company. 19 MR. CAMPBELL: Thank you. Do I give the 20 witnesses too or just counsel? 21 HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: Counsel. 22 MR. CAMPBELL: For Dominion East Ohio, 23 Andrew John Campbell and Gregory L. Williams, 88 East 24 Broad Street, Suite 1590, Columbus, Ohio 43215. 25 HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: Thank you. Do

we have any preliminary matters to take care of this morning? None? Mr. Slusser, do you wish to testify in your case?

MR. JEFF SLUSSER: Yes.

HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: Why don't you come up here and take the stand. Please raise your right hand.

(Witness sworn.)

HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: Please be seated. Go ahead and state your complaint in a narrative fashion, and then we'll have a period of questioning by the company. Go ahead. I'll ask everybody in the room to speak up because the acoustics aren't the best in the room.

Go ahead and state your complaint.

THE WITNESS: My ears aren't the greatest.

Too many chain saws and so forth. But my -- I have apartments in Wooster, Ohio. Like I have about 17 properties. And the one property, I decided to start selling. I tried to have an auction, but that doesn't have anything to do with the gas.

The one property that I had, or actually still have, had like seven apartments in it. And what I was doing is trying to -- well, the last two or three I had to evict because I wasn't getting

rent; and it took the attorney's secretary like six months to get the last one out. So I'm losing all this rent, but meanwhile there is two gas meters there. And the one meter, by the time I wanted to sell it, it got to \$4,999. Somewhere in that vicinity.

And like I have like the -- I have about one, well, actually two other properties I still pay gas; but I get shut-off notices like for like 100 and a half or if you don't pay it, we're going to shut it off. And my biggest complaint is: Why did they let the gas run all the way to \$4,999?

Then my next problem is they took that gas bill and moved it to -- moved it to Market Street, that property. And when they moved it to that property, that gas couldn't get paid there; and then I lost tenants there because they shut the gas off there.

My complaint is: If you couldn't pay the gas at 665 North Bever, which actually has two addresses, 319 Spring, why would the gas company think by taking the gas bill and moving it to another property think I'm going to be able to pay the bill there? Which actually I couldn't pay there either. And then I lost the four — the four — I have four

properties or apartments there and then one of them or two of them are Metro. And as soon as Metro found out the gas was shut off, they pulled their tenants out of there. I even think — I'm almost coming to the conclusion that at the other properties I had with Metro and Metro pulled those out, I lost rent there. I ended up losing probably about \$53,000 in rent because of this event.

Also from that property, they moved it over to 439 North Market. The one city director or service director at Wooster, that was my last — or my best property. It was a historical building, and I know that they were after it. And as soon as the gas bill went from 431 North Market and went over to 439 North Market and the gas got shut off there, I lost tenants there. And then, of course, the city service director, they didn't even try to help me try to get the gas on there.

And then I have a lot of tenants there.

And then I lost the property there because what I tried to do was have an auction and pay the gas company off with the auction, but the auctioneer postponed it three times; and then eventually the city service director foreclosed on me. And then I lost the property.

And I -- I -- I always was under the assumption that my realtor and my attorney was with me; but as the months have gone on, I have found out that that's not really true because, you know, like when I signed the paper to sell a couple of these properties, that's all I did, thinking that, of course, my realtor is taking care of me and my attorney is taking care of me. It's not what happened. Actually I'm taking them to court because my wife, who lives in Tennessee, never signed the other -- the two properties that the city foreclosed on me or -- or that I sold; so she was totally unaware, which I just assumed that the realtor was going to inform her.

Well, actually the one fellow that helps
me told me that the secretary -- attorney's secretary
had her sign and I called her and I asked her, I
said, "DO you know anything?" She said, "I didn't
even know you were selling stuff."

So, you know, me assuming that things are going clearly in the record, going the way they're supposed to go, didn't happen. And I've lost probably at least over \$250,000, at least, in rent and property. I mean, I was — oh, fees and late fees, all this kind of stuff, just because if

Dominion would have just left the gas there at 665 North Bever and I would have had the hit there and left the other ones alone, I would still be getting income; and, you know, we could have worked things out there.

I could be nibbling on that and not lose all these other properties and all this other rent or, better yet, even shut the gas off at a reasonable amount; but they didn't do it. And now -- now they're on me.

I mean, I -- I just -- you know, when I'm working with them, it's like working with air. It's not being able to walk in and say, "Why did you shut the gas off?" You call this person and that person. I mean, it's very, very frustrating for me. I'm too cut and dry. I don't know. I just -- I mean -- I mean, basically I'm -- I'm totally destroyed.

I'm just sort of winging it with the other properties right now because I want to -- like when I did have the other properties and I was paying, even one time, I talked to the tax people when I was paying taxes. She said, "Oh, what happened? You were doing so good." Well, I'm not anymore because of losing all that. I mean, you lose \$250,000. I don't know.

I rent to low income. I rent -- like my rent is like 350, 300, 250, 400. I got no leeway. I mean, I like to have my problems with just the tenants on their little struggles, not with people who should know what's going on.

You know, like the City took me to court because I worked out something with the one trash company. I made a little dumpster, and I was trying to get the tenants to just put it in there; and the City gets on me because of my block dumpster. And I was trying to work it out there just to have it like that, but they were always trying to nibble on me and trying to find little things like that in order to finally get that historical building.

And I know I'm talking in circles; but if you take me aside, I can -- I can -- I can probably explain everything very good. But that's -- I mean, it just -- my problem right now is -- and I don't like -- let's see. How can I say this? I would like Dominion not to be able to take the gas and put it on other properties. I mean, there's no sense in doing it. If I can't pay it there, why am I going to be able to pay it over here? And when you move it over there, then it gets shut down there; and I lose more tenants or whoever has it, they lose tenants.

1 And why leave it to run to 400 and 2 900-some dollars. I can't go in there and shut it 3 off because, let's see, I had -- I had three boilers in there. 4 5 HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: I'm going to ask 6 you to focus on your complaint now. 7 THE WITNESS: Pardon me? 8 HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: Focus on your 9 complaint. Does that conclude the testimony on your complaint? Do you have any documents or exhibits 10 11 you'd like offer into evidence? 12 THE WITNESS: But the last thing I want to 13 say is I'm at the mercy of them because I've got seven apartments; and if the apartments get shut off, 14 15 I'm at their mercy, thinking, okay, when it gets at a 16 reasonable amount, shut it off, you know, not let it 17 run up to that amount. HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: You nodded when 18 19 I said, Do you have any exhibits to offer? Do you 20 have any exhibits you want to put into evidence? 21 THE WITNESS: Well, I got the bills. 22 Let's see. 23 HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: Let's go off the 24 record.

(Off the record.)

1 HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: Let's take a 2 little break here, a recess. 3 (Recess taken.) 4 HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: Let's go back on the record here. Mr. Slusser, I'm going to ask you 5 6 to come back up to the stand. You've indicated that 7 you want a multipaged document marked as an exhibit. I'll mark that as Complainant's Exhibit 1. 8 9 (EXHIBIT MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION.) 10 HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: I'm going to ask 11 you a couple questions about it. Pages 2 through 6 are handwritten pages. That's your handwriting; you 12 13 wrote that? 14 THE WITNESS: Yes. 15 HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: Okay. Now what 16 I'll do is let the company ask some questions on 17 cross-examination. Go ahead and have a seat. 18 19 JEFF SLUSSER 20 being first duly sworn, as prescribed by law, was 21 examined and testified as follows: 22 CROSS-EXAMINATION 23 By Mr. Williams: 2.4 Good morning, Mr. Slusser. My name is Ο. 25 Gregory Williams. I'm one of the attorneys

- 1 representing Dominion East Ohio Gas. Okay?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. If at any point you don't understand me,
- 4 if you can't hear me, or if you don't understand a
- 5 | question, please stop me and we'll attempt to
- 6 clarify. Okay?
- 7 A. (Witness nods head.)
- 8 Q. Throughout my questioning I will be asking
- 9 you some yes or no questions. So that there's
- 10 clarity in the record, please respond to these
- 11 questions by saying either yes or no, depending upon
- 12 | what your answer is. Okay?
- 13 A. Okay.
- 14 Q. And then, finally, just so we're clear,
- 15 throughout my questioning, I may refer to Dominion
- 16 East Ohio Gas or either Dominion or DEO. It all
- 17 refers to Dominion East Ohio Gas. Does that make
- 18 sense?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. I'd like to direct your attention to
- 21 | Complainant's Exhibit 1, the document that was just
- 22 admitted into evidence. On page 3 of this document
- 23 you have a No. 5 circled. It says, Gas transferred
- 24 most to 431. Do you see that?
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. Directly beneath that you say, at 665.
- 2 I'm assuming that's 665 North Bever Street?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4  $\mid$  Q. There was an arrearage of \$4,709.13; is
- 5 that correct?
- 6 A. It might be. See, there was the two
- 7 addresses on the building. I did try to get it
- 8 | changed, but they wouldn't do it. 319 Spring, and I
- 9 think that's the gas bill.
- 10 Q. Okay.
- 11 A. 4,700 whatever.
- 12 Q. So then the company's records indicate
- 13 that that arrearage is at 319 Spring Street, so you
- agree that the arrearage is at 319 Spring Street and
- 15 not 665 Bever Street?
- 16 A. Correct.
- 17 Q. Further down on that same page where you
- 18 have No. 6 circled, you say that 431 was shut off on
- 19 | May 1 of 2009. Do you see that?
- 20 A. Correct.
- 21 Q. Our records indicate, however, that the
- 22 gas was shut off on May 13, 2009. Do you have any
- 23 evidence or documentation to contradict our records
- 24 that indicate when service at that location was
- 25 disconnected?

A. The only way I have a record is if I had the bill or if I got a letter from them stating that.

Like I -- I just -- I think what they're doing now is the tenants that are paying the gas -- like I got one tenant. Dominion sent me a letter saying you got five days and it's going to be shut off, even though I don't pay the bill.

And -- and they're just telling me, we want to notify you that we notified your tenant that they haven't paid the gas bill and it's going to be shut off.

- Q. Okay. My question, however, was: Our records indicate that gas was disconnected on May 13 of 2009. Do you have either that letter that you just testified to or any other evidence that would contradict DEO's records that show service was disconnected on May 13, 2009?
- A. I'm assuming I do; but, you know, sitting right here, I don't know if I can come up with it. I mean, I've got so many hours trying to get this thing together. It seems like every time I do work on it, I discover the transfer, you know, different something else comes up.

I'm sure that somehow I came up with May 1 because everything that I have put down there is not

- 1 a guess. For some reason I have come to the
- 2 | conclusion that it was like May 1, but I don't see
- 3 that.
- 4 Q. I'm sorry. Mr. Slusser, how did you come
- 5 to that conclusion? Do you have documentation that
- 6 you can show us today that says gas was disconnected
- 7 on May 1 as opposed to May 13?
- 8 A. Well, you'd have to give me a little time
- 9 to look for it because I brought the other one, the
- 10 other notebook that I have. If it's not in here,
- 11 then I'd have to look for it. You know, to me what's
- 12 the difference between May 1 and May 13?
- 13 Q. We're trying to establish clarity in the
- 14 record.
- 15 A. Yeah.
- 16 O. We want to ensure that we're all on the
- same page about when service at a particular location
- 18 was disconnected.
- 19 A. If it's -- I'm sure I could come up with
- 20 it because, you know. There goes the lips again.
- 21 Q. Mr. Slusser, if it's okay with Attorney
- 22 Examiner Sheets, I'd be willing to give you some time
- 23 to find this documentation --
- 24 A. Yeah.
- 25 Q. -- if you have it with you today;

- 1 otherwise, I'd like to move on.
- 2 HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: Yes. If you
- 3 want to take a minute to search, we can do that.
- 4 Let's go off the record here for a little while.
- 5 (Recess taken.)
- 6 HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: Okay. We'll go
- 7 back on the record.
- 8 Q. (By Mr. Williams) So I'll ask you the
- 9 | question again. Do you have any reason to disagree
- 10 with DEO's records that disconnection at 431 North
- 11 Market was on May 13?
- 12 A. No.
- 13 Q. Do you have any reason to disagree that
- 14 the transfer from 431 North Market to 439 North
- 15 | Market occurred on January 13 as opposed to
- 16 January 28, 2010?
- 17 A. Well, I mean, there has to be a reason I
- came up with the 28th. Is that what you're saying?
- 19 Q. I'm asking if you disagree with Dominion's
- 20 records that the transfer occurred on January 13,
- 21 | 2010, as opposed to January 28, 2010.
- 22 A. Well, I don't want to cut my neck here. I
- 23 mean, there has to be a reason I come up with the
- 24 28th. I don't know what would be the difference,
- whether shut off or transferred the 28th or your

date, because either way --

transferred.

what I mean?

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- Q. The difference is just a matter of clarity in the record. Now, you may have received a bill from Dominion dated January 28, 2010, that indicated during that billing period that service was
- My question is: Do you have any reason to
  disagree that the actual transfer, the transfer
  itself, occurred on January 13, 2010, instead of
  whenever your bill may have been dated?
- A. Well, all I want to say is: It was
  transferred. Now, whether -- I mean, I can't say I
  agree with you because I'm not sure if you're right.
  I really can't agree because I'm not sure if I'm
  right on the 28th, but I don't think either one of
  - Q. Okay. That's fine. Do you have any reason to disagree, Mr. Slusser, that the shutoff or disconnection at 439 North Market occurred on April 15, 2010, instead of August 2, 2010?

those dates matter. It got transferred. You know

- A. Well, it would be the same. It would be the same. Same as like with the transfer, your date and my date, but we're only, what, ten days apart.
  - Q. Well, that's about five months.

- 1 A. What did you say? What was your first
- 2 one?
- 3 Q. April 13.
- 4 A. Oh, April. I got August.
- 5 Q. I'm sorry. April 15, 2010, and you say
- 6 August 2.
- 7 A. Yeah. Well, I mean, I'd have to check
- 8 that. But when it got shut off, the tenant put signs
- 9 in the window, No Gas. I mean, every window in the
- 10 place had that in it. So, I mean, I will not be -- I
- 11 | will not have trouble finding out the date you shut
- 12 it off because --
- 13 Q. So then you do not disagree that the
- shutoff at 439 occurred on April 15, 2010? You're
- not sure right now; you're not sure enough to
- 16 disagree?
- 17 A. Well, no. I -- I don't want to disagree
- or agree because I'd like to check it; but I came up
- 19 | with August the 2nd. Why I came up with that, either
- 20 because of the bill or because that was the date it
- 21 actually was done. When it got shut off, the last
- 22 tenant in there, like I say, put signs in -- I mean,
- 23 the windows have like those four-pane things. Every
- one of those windows had the words "No Gas. Shut
- 25 off." And everybody saw it.

- 1 Q. That's sufficient. Thank you,
- 2 Mr. Slusser. You testified that a property had an
- 3 arrearage of approximately \$5,000. Which property
- 4 are you referring to?
- 5 A. Well, I should say \$4,709.
- 6 Q. Okay. And that's at the 319 Spring
- 7 Street?
- 8 A. 319.
- 9 Q. How many units?
- 10 A. Seven.
- 11 Q. Seven?
- 12 A. Those weren't numbered like that. And the
- one fellow that was there forever, I used to ask him
- all the time, "Why are they numbered like this?"
- 15 Q. But there were seven?
- 16 A. There were seven.
- 17 Q. Okay.
- 18 A. And then why was there like -- you know,
- 19 like it sat on a corner. 665 was the main, Bever.
- 20 Then on the side was 319 Spring, and that's why
- 21 there's two addresses on that building.
- 22 Q. Thank you. How long have you been a
- 23 | landlord, Mr. Slusser?
- 24 A. Since '83.
- 25 Q. '83. So almost 30 years?

- 1 A. (Witness nods head.)
- 2 Q. Isn't it true that you allowed substantial
- 3 arrearages on the accounts about which you're now
- 4 complaining?
- 5 A. What's the first part?
- 6 Q. Isn't it true that you allowed substantial
- 7 | arrearages to be built up on the accounts that you're
- 8 | now complaining about?
- 9 A. I don't know if I understand.
- 10 Q. Okay.
- 11 A. Say it again.
- 12 Q. Are you the customer of record on each of
- 13 | the accounts that are the subject of your complaint?
- 14 Is it your name on the bills?
- 15 A. Yes. Well --
- 16 Q. That's sufficient, Mr. Slusser. You'll
- 17 have an opportunity to finish and to clarify on
- 18 redirect. Just a yes or no is sufficient.
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. Thank you. Don't you think that you
- 21 should have stopped service if you thought the
- 22 arrearage was getting too high or if you were unable
- 23 to pay on any of these accounts?
- 24 A. Only if I -- only if I have properties
- 25 | that had one apartment. I could do that. I couldn't

- do that at Bever because I had six units in there,
- 2 and you can't do that. I have no control over it.
- 3 Q. So then you were not aware that landlords
- 4 may contact natural gas companies and request a
- 5 disconnection of service for their tenants?
- 6 A. At that address?
- 7 Q. At any address.
- 8 A. Well, I'm aware that I could not or any
- 9 landlord cannot shut gas off that has more than one
- 10 unit. If you have two, three, four, five units, you
- 11 can't do it. I've tried that trick. Next thing I
- 12 know, I'm being told to turn it back on.
- 13 Q. By whom?
- 14 A. Well, the one time I did it, it was the
- 15 | city service director. And what I always wanted to
- 16 happen, which it never does, is each unit take care
- of themselves. And I tried that trick. And as soon
- as it got shut off, I had to turn it back on because
- 19 I tell him the rent doesn't cover it. He said, "Get
- 20 it back on."
- 21 Q. But it wasn't Dominion that told you you
- 22 | could not disconnect service to your tenants? You
- 23 said it was the city director, but Dominion did not
- 24 say that you were not allowed to disconnect service?
- 25 A. No.

- 1 Q. Okay.
- 2 A. That -- that was secondhand by the City.
- 3 I've always known that.
- 4 Q. But you did not hear from Dominion that
- 5 you were unable to disconnect service; is that right?
- 6 A. I didn't what?
- 7 Q. You did not hear from Dominion, Dominion
- 8 | did not tell you that you were unable to disconnect
- 9 service?
- 10 A. Well, I -- I can't say yes or no on that;
- 11 but I assume that it did because, I mean, it's --
- 12 it's your gas and your company.
- 13 Q. Okay.
- MR. WILLIAMS: Your Honor, I have here
- premarked DEO Exhibit 2.0. May I approach the
- 16 | witness?
- 17 HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: You may.
- 18 Q. (By Mr. Williams) Mr. Slusser, I just
- 19 handed you a copy of select pages from Dominion's
- 20 tariff, which is on file with the Public Utilities
- 21 Commission of Ohio. Do you see that? Do you see
- 22 that?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 Q. Thank you. If you turn to the second page
- of the exhibit that I just gave you --

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- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. -- I've highlighted a portion of text. At
- 3 | the bottom of that second page, it's Subsection K on
- 4 the page, do you see that?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. Okay. And it continues from that second
- 7 page to the third page, to the top of the third page.
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Do you see that?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Would you read the highlighted portion for
- me, please.
- 13 A. It says, If a customer who is a property
- owner or the agent of a property requests a
- disconnect of service when the resident/tenant
- 16 resides at the premises, the company shall perform
- both.
- 18 Q. And then please continue.
- 19 A. But that's what I was telling you.
- 20 Q. Please continue to the top of the second
- 21 page.
- 22 A. Write at least a ten-day notice prior to
- 23 the disconnect of the service by mail to the resident
- and tenant by posting a notice informing such
- 25 customer of customer's liability for the utilities

- 1 service consumption during the ten days.
- 2 Q. Thank you, Mr. Slusser. You suggest in
- 3 your complaint that the gas not being turned off in a
- 4 timely manner is responsible for your financial
- 5 hardships; is that right?
- 6 A. Say that again.
- 7 Q. You suggest in your complaint that because
- 8 Dominion did not turn off gas service in, as you say,
- 9 a timely manner, that that action is responsible for
- 10 your financial hardships?
- 11 A. Right.
- 12 Q. Okay.
- 13 A. Right.
- 14 Q. But isn't it true, Mr. Slusser, that you
- were having trouble paying property taxes on many of
- 16 these properties?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. So, for example, isn't it true that as of
- 19 2007, you were approximately \$17,000 delinquent on
- 20 property taxes owed at 665 North Bever Street?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 MR. WILLIAMS: May I approach the witness,
- 23 your Honor?
- 24 HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: You may.
- MR. WILLIAMS: Your Honor, I have what

- 1 I've premarked as DEO Exhibit 3.0.
- 2 Q. (By Mr. Williams) Mr. Slusser, I just
- 3 | handed you a packet of information from the Wayne
- 4 | County, Ohio, Treasurer's web site. Do you recognize
- 5 that? Yes or no, please?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. Thank you. On the first page of the
- 8 document that I gave you, you'll notice it's a screen
- 9 shot from the Wayne County, Ohio, Treasurer's Office.
- 10 Do you see that?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. And you'll notice in the box toward the
- 13 right side of that first page, the fifth bullet point
- 14 down says, "View late taxpayers list here." Do you
- 15 see that?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. And if you were to click that hyperlink,
- it would take you to the second page; and this is a
- 19 list of late taxpayers in Wayne County, Ohio. Do you
- 20 recognize that?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. Toward the top of this document it says,
- 23 "Printable Version," and I've highlighted it on what
- 24 | I gave you. Do you see that?
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. If you were to click that hyperlink, it
- 2 | would take you to what begins on the third page of
- 3 | the document that I gave you, and this is a printable
- 4 list of late taxpayers, late property taxpayers, in
- 5 | Wayne County, Ohio. It includes the names, the
- 6 addresses, and delinquencies as of a certain year.
- 7 Do you see that?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Thank you. So beginning on the third page
- of the document that I gave you, Mr. Slusser, you'll
- 11 notice in the lower right-hand corner it's numbered 1
- 12 of 27. Do you see that?
- 13 A. (Witness nods head.)
- 14 Q. I've highlighted some information in
- 15 several rows for you. Do you see that?
- 16 A. (Witness nods head.)
- 17 Q. So you would agree that as of 2007, you
- were \$15,000.14 delinguent on property taxes at
- 19 431 North Market Street as of 2007; correct?
- 20 A. Correct.
- 21 Q. Would you turn to page 2 of 27.
- 22 A. Yeah.
- 23 Q. So you would agree that as of 2007, you
- 24 | were \$9,910.96 delinquent on property taxes owed at
- 25 | 737 Spruce Street; is that correct?

- 1 A. Correct.
- 2 Q. You would also agree that as of 2007, you
- 3 | were \$9,504.11 delinquent on property taxes at
- 4 231 East Larwill Street; correct?
- 5 A. Correct.
- 6 Q. You would agree that as of 2007, you were
- 7 \$8,259.92 delinquent in property taxes at 721 Spruce
- 8 Street; correct?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. You would agree that as of 2007, you were
- 11 \$7,976.95 delinquent on property taxes at
- 12 | 1740 Westwood Circle; correct?
- 13 A. Correct.
- 14 Q. You would agree that as of 2007, you were
- 15 \$7,444.10 delinquent on property taxes at 321 Nold
- 16 Avenue; correct?
- 17 A. Correct.
- 18 Q. Please turn to page 3 of 27. You would
- 19 agree that as of 2007, you were \$6,293.09 delinquent
- 20 on property taxes owed at 725 Spruce Street; correct?
- 21 A. Correct.
- 22 Q. Please turn to page 4 of 27. You would
- agree that as of 2007, you were \$5,911.52 delinquent
- on property taxes at 349 East North Street; correct?
- 25 A. Correct.

- 1 Q. You would agree that as of 2007, you were
- 2 \$5,376.64 delinquent on property taxes at 733 Spruce
- 3 Street; correct?
- 4 A. Correct.
- 5 Q. Please turn to page 6 of 27. You would
- 6 agree that as of 2007, you were \$4,450.02 delinquent
- 7 on property taxes owed at 329 Spring Street; correct?
- 8 A. Correct.
- 9 Q. Please turn to page 7 of 27. You would
- 10 agree that as of 2007, you were \$3,723.88 delinquent
- on property taxes owed at 318 West Larwill Street;
- 12 correct?
- 13 A. Correct.
- 14 Q. Please turn to page 8 of 27. You would
- agree that as of 2007, you were \$3,421.66 delinquent
- on property taxes owed at 312 East Bowman Street;
- 17 correct?
- 18 A. Correct.
- 19 Q. Please turn to page 15 of 27. You would
- 20 agree that as of 2007, you were \$1,407.90 delinquent
- 21 on property taxes owed at 334 West South Street;
- 22 correct?
- 23 A. Correct.
- Q. Please turn to page 18 of 27. You would
- agree that as of 2008, you were \$895.17 delinquent on

- 1 property taxes owed at what's highlighted there as
- 2 Spring Street; correct?
- 3 A. Correct -- no. Actually when it has like
- 4 | Spring Street, it's really at the address of
- 5 | 329 Spring.
- 6 Q. It's 329 Spring?
- 7 A. Right. I don't know exactly how the
- 8 property is divided up; but it's just a small little
- 9 house there, which I'm working on now.
- 10 Q. But you would agree that you were
- 11 delinquent on property taxes at that location,
- 12 | 329 Spring Street?
- 13 A. Yes, yes.
- 14 Q. Please turn to page 19 of 27. You would
- agree that as of 2008, you were \$825.02 delinquent in
- 16 | property taxes at what's noted there as Spring
- 17 Street; correct?
- 18 A. Right. That's that same house, same
- 19 address.
- 20 Q. That's that same address, 329, you're
- 21 saying?
- 22 A. (Witness nods head.)
- 23 Q. Please turn to page 23 of 27. You would
- 24 agree that --
- 25 A. Same thing.

- 1 Q. So you would agree that as of 2008, you
- 2 | were \$508.93 delinquent in property taxes owed at
- 3 Spruce Street?
- 4 A. Oh, wait a minute. Yeah. That probably
- 5 goes with 733 Spruce.
- 6 Q. Okay. But you agree that you were
- 7 delinquent in property taxes as that location as of
- 8 | 2008? I'm sorry. Yes or no, please.
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. Thank you. Then, finally, Mr. Slusser,
- 11 please turn to page 27 of 27. You would agree that
- as of 2009, you were \$231.37 delinquent in property
- 13 taxes at Spruce Street; correct?
- 14 A. That's the same address. 733.
- 15 Q. Thank you. Do you expect to receive rent
- 16 payments from your tenants at your locations,
- 17 Mr. Slusser?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. If a tenant is late paying their rent,
- 20 | will you ever give them additional time to make
- 21 payments?
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. If a tenant of yours had financial
- 24 difficulties and was struggling to pay rent, wouldn't
- 25 you expect them to contact you if they would be

- 1 unable to make their rent payment?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. Thank you. You would agree with me,
- 4 Mr. Slusser, that a landlord should have the ability
- 5 to decide whether and when to evict a non-paying
- 6 tenant; right?
- 7 A. Right. Right.
- 8 Q. If a tenant of yours had an issue with
- 9 your management of a particular property, would you
- 10 expect them to let you know about it?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. So you would expect them to let you know
- before they filed a lawsuit, for example?
- 14 A. Start again.
- 15 Q. Would you expect a tenant to let you know
- about any problems they were having with your
- management at a particular property before they filed
- 18 | a lawsuit against you?
- 19 A. It probably wouldn't happen.
- 20 | Q. I'm sorry?
- 21 A. I would expect it, but it probably
- 22 wouldn't happen.
- 23 Q. But you wouldn't expect them to; correct?
- 24 I'm not asking you what you think a tenant would do.
- 25 I'm asking what you would expect as a landlord.

- 1 A. I'm going to say no.
- 2 Q. So you would expect a tenant to file a
- 3 | lawsuit against you before they've contacted you to
- 4 discuss any problems they were having with your
- 5 | management of a property? That's what you would
- 6 prefer?
- 7 A. No. I wouldn't expect it.
- 8 Q. So you would prefer that they contact you
- 9 before they filed a lawsuit; right?
- 10 A. No, no.
- 11 Q. No, you would not expect that?
- 12 A. No. Well, one, I wouldn't expect it.
- 13 And, two, as far as -- from '83 it's never happened.
- I mean, if you treat the tenant like you're supposed
- 15 to, things like this doesn't happen.
- 16 Q. I'm sorry. Repeat that last part.
- 17 A. If you treat the tenant like a normal
- 18 | human being, nothing like this happens.
- 19 Q. It's not a question about how you treated
- 20 the tenant. Let's say the tenant just had a problem
- 21 with your management not due to anything.
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. So you would prefer -- I'm sorry. Let me
- 24 ask the question again.
- You would prefer that a tenant file a

- 1 lawsuit against you before they communicated their
- 2 problem with your management?
- 3 A. No.
- 4 Q. Thank you. Let's imagine that a tenant
- 5 broke a window at one of your properties at the
- 6 beginning of winter and let's also imagine that the
- 7 tenant did not let you know that they broke that
- 8 | window until the end of winter. Are you with me so
- 9 far?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. If the tenant never told you about the
- 12 broken window, wouldn't it be inappropriate for that
- tenant to try to hold you responsible for their
- 14 apartment being cold during the winter or their heat
- 15 | bill being too high during the winter?
- 16 A. Say this again.
- MR. WILLIAMS: Could you read the question
- 18 back, please?
- 19 (Question read.)
- 20 A. Is there an answer other than yes or no?
- 21 Q. No, there's not.
- 22 A. Well, then I'll say no, if I remember that
- 23 right.
- 24 Q. So you're saying it would be appropriate
- 25 for a tenant --

A. No.

- 2 Q. So it would not be appropriate? You agree
- 3 | with me that it would be inappropriate for a tenant
- 4 to try to hold you responsible for their apartment
- 5 being cold or their heat bill being too high?
- 6 A. No. I -- I can't answer that one. I
- 7 don't want to answer yes or no because I can't come
- 8 back with a statement.
- 9 Q. Yes, you can. As I said earlier, you will
- 10 have an opportunity to clarify any answer that you've
- 11 given here on cross-examination during your redirect;
- 12 but I will ask you to answer the question. And the
- 13 | question is: You would agree with me that it would
- be inappropriate for a tenant to hold you responsible
- 15 for their actions in that situation?
- 16 MR. WILLIAMS: Can I withdraw the
- 17 | question?
- 18 Q. Let me reask it. You would agree with me,
- 19 Mr. Slusser, that it's inappropriate for a tenant to
- 20 try hold you responsible for the fact that they broke
- 21 their window and did not tell you but then they tried
- 22 to hold you responsible for their apartment being
- 23 cold or their heat bill being too high?
- 24 A. All right. I'll say yes.
- 25 Q. Thank you.

- 1 A. I think I know where you're trying to go
- 2 to.
- 3 Q. You suggest in your complaint, and again
- 4 here during your testimony, that the timing of the
- 5 disconnection of service is why you lost rent
- 6 revenue; correct?
- 7 A. No. I lost -- I lost rent, you know,
- 8 like --
- 9 HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: You need a yes
- 10 or no; right?
- MR. WILLIAMS: Yes. Yes or no, please.
- 12 A. See say it again.
- 13 Q. You suggest in your complaint that
- Dominion's timing of disconnecting natural gas
- 15 service --
- 16 A. No.
- 17 Q. is why you lost rent revenue?
- 18 | A. The reason I can say no is we're talking
- about -- we're talking about 665, so I'm saying no.
- 20 But if you want to talk about transferring the bill
- 21 to all these other properties, it's a yes.
- 22 Q. So then you're saying that you do not have
- 23 a -- strike that.
- So you're saying that Dominion acted
- 25 appropriately in disconnecting gas service when it

37 did at 319 Spring Street? 1 2 Inappropriately. Α. 3 Appropriately? Q. 4 Α. Inappropriately. 5 You're saying they acted inappropriately? Q. 6 (Witness nods head.) Α. 7 And because they acted inappropriately, in Q. 8 your opinion, that had an impact on your rent revenues; is that correct? 9 Not there. 10 Α. 11 Q. I'm sorry? 12 Not 665. Α. 13 At which location? Q. The problem -- see, there's two problems: 14 Α. 15 One --I'm sorry. At which location did 16 Q. 17 Dominion's timing of disconnection have an impact on your rent revenue? 18 19 Α. Not at 665. 20 That's fair. At which location, though? Q. 21 All the other -- all the other places that Α. 22 you transferred that bill. Then I had problems with 23 rent. 24 Q. Okay. 25 Because at 665, the one realtor talked me

Α.

- 1 into auctioning it off but --
- 2 Q. You would agree with me, Mr. Slusser, that
- 3 as a landlord you must account for the expenses
- 4 | necessary to run your business; correct?
- 5 A. Correct.
- 6 Q. Is Dominion responsible for supervising
- 7 your tenants and ensuring they have the ability to
- 8 pay rent?
- 9 A. Wait a minute. Start again.
- 10 Q. Is it Dominion's responsibility to ensure
- 11 that your tenants have the ability to pay rent?
- 12 A. No.
- 13 Q. Is it Dominion's responsibility for
- ensuring that your business achieves and maintains a
- 15 certain level of revenue?
- 16 A. No.
- 17 Q. Is it Dominion's responsibility to ensure
- 18 | that you remain in business?
- 19 A. No.
- 20 Q. In your complaint you refer to quote,
- 21 Metropolitan Housing Authority; and then again during
- 22 your testimony, you again refer to Metro?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 Q. Are you referring to the Wayne
- 25 | Metropolitan Housing Authority?

- 1 A. Right. Correct.
- 2 Q. Thank you. Isn't it correct that when you
- 3 state in your complaint that you rent to low income
- 4 | that you're referring to participants of the Section
- 5 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. And isn't it correct that as a part of
- 8 this program, a house being subsidized for these low
- 9 income tenants is paid from the Wayne Metropolitan
- 10 Housing Authority directly to you as the landlord?
- 11 A. Only if I -- only if I'm paying the
- 12 utilities. Are you talking about that or the rent?
- 13 Q. Would you like me to -- would you like to
- 14 hear the question read back?
- 15 A. Okay.
- 16 (Question read.)
- 17 A. Well, I mean, you have the rent. And then
- 18 | sometimes some tenants I pay the utilities. So you
- 19 get the rent, and you're subsidized also to be able
- 20 to pay the utilities. Now, some tenants pay the
- 21 utilities; and then I just get the rent. And they
- 22 | figure out somehow that they're able to pay their
- 23 utilities from that rent, and then the rest comes to
- 24 me.
- 25 | Q. Are you aware of Ms. Edwards' testimony in

- 1 | this proceeding?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. And so you're aware that Ms. Edwards will
- 4 testify that on April 15, 2012, Dominion discovered
- 5 and disconnected an unauthorized natural gas line
- 6 from 439 North Market Street to 431 North Market
- 7 Street?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Do you know how that line got there?
- 10 A. Pardon me?
- 11 Q. Do you know how that line got there?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. Regardless of how it got there, how did it
- 14 | get there?
- 15 A. Well, to be nice to me, I would not like
- 16 to cut my own neck because I'm not your normal breed
- of cat. All I was trying to do is keep both
- 18 buildings going with gas because of what they did,
- 19 what they did at that building.
- 20 Q. So then you're admitting --
- 21 A. So I was trying to keep both buildings
- 22 going in order to get rent.
- 23 Q. So then you put the line there; right?
- 24 A. I don't want to say that.
- 25 Q. You have to answer either yes or no.

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1
     Α.
                 I don't want to say yes or no. That's
2
     cutting my own neck.
3
                 MR. WILLIAMS: Attorney Examiner Sheets,
     could you --
4
5
                If the answers would stay within the
6
     confines of here, I could -- I'm sure you could ask
7
     me to agree or not agree; but I'm sure you could, you
8
     know, ask --
9
                 MR. WILLIAMS: Your Honor, could you
     please instruct him to answer either yes or no?
10
11
                 HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: Would you please
12
     answer the question yes or no.
13
                 THE WITNESS: What would you like --
14
                 (By Mr. Williams) You put the line there;
     Q.
15
     correct?
16
                Okay. Yeah. All right. I'll take it.
     Α.
17
                MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you. No further
18
     questions, your Honor.
19
                 THE WITNESS: There's no way that I can
20
     get out of it because, I mean, I don't hide anything
     but nor do I want to cut my own neck. What I
21
22
     couldn't understand is even the tenant that was in
23
     there that called you folks is the one that was going
24
     to get gas and have heat.
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MR. WILLIAMS: I'm sorry. Your Honor, I

have no further questions. If he desires to clarify his answers on redirect, that's fine. As I said, I have no further questions.

HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: Are you finished with cross?

MR. WILLIAMS: Yes, sir.

HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: Now we'll have a period of redirect. You can clarify anything that he said on cross-examination. If you do that, I want you to focus on individual -- on the counts of your complaint. Do you have anything that you want to say now?

THE WITNESS: The only reason I'm here is because of 665, not getting it shut off in a timely manner and transferring it to the other properties and causing me more problems there, which was the same thing that ended up at 665. I would like Dominion not to be able to transfer the bills, and I would like Dominion not to let the gas run up that high.

I mean, it's just that's the only -- only reason I'm here. I would like to get compensated. I mean, I lost property and I've lost rent.

HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: Does that conclude your testimony on redirect?

43 THE WITNESS: Let me ask him. 1 2 HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: Let's go off the 3 record. (Off the record.) 4 5 THE WITNESS: That's it. 6 HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: Do you have any 7 questions on recross? 8 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes, your Honor, just one. 9 10 RECROSS-EXAMINATION 11 By Mr. Williams: 12 In your redirect testimony, you said that Ο. you lost rent. On which properties did you lose rent 13 14 on? 15 Α. Like at --16 MR. WILLIAMS: I'm sorry. May I rephrase 17 the question, please? HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: Go ahead. 18 19 Q. You said you lost properties. Which properties did you lose? And by that I mean were 20 21 there properties foreclosed on? If so, which 22 properties were foreclosed? 23 Α. The 439 North Market. 24 Is that all? Ο. 25 MR. SAM SLUSSER: Foreclosed?

44 1 THE WITNESS: Huh? 2 Is that the only one that was foreclosed? Q. 3 MR. SAM SLUSSER: It wasn't foreclosed. 439? 4 5 THE WITNESS: Huh? MR. SAM SLUSSER: 439 was sold. 6 7 THE WITNESS: It was foreclosed. (By Mr. Williams) Is that the only one, 8 Q. Mr. Slusser? 9 (Witness nods head.) 10 Α. 11 MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you. Nothing further. 12 13 HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: Are you done? 14 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes, sir. 15 HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: Thank you. You're excused as a witness. Do you have any other 16 17 witnesses, Mr. Slusser? MR. JEFF SLUSSER: No. 18 19 HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: No other witnesses? 20 21 MR. JEFF SLUSSER: No. 22 HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: We'll go to the 23 company's side of the case. 2.4 MR. CAMPBELL: Your Honor, at this time, 25 the company would call Roxie Edwards to the stand.

45 1 May I approach the bench? 2 HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: Yes. 3 (Witness sworn.) HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: Please be 4 5 seated. 6 7 ROXIE EDWARDS 8 being first duly sworn, as prescribed by law, was examined and testified as follows: 9 DIRECT EXAMINATION 10 BY MR. CAMPBELL: 11 12 Good morning, Ms. Edwards. 0. 13 Α. Good morning. 14 Could you please state your name and title 15 for the record? 16 My name is Roxie Edwards. I am customer Α. 17 relations manager for Dominion East Ohio. Do you have in front of you what's been 18 Q. marked as DEO Exhibit 1.0? 19 20 Α. Yes. 21 Is this the direct testimony that was Q. 22 prepared under your direction in this case? 23 Α. Yes. 24 If I asked you the same questions today Q. 25 that appear in DEO 1.0, would your answers be the

46

1 same? 2 Yes, they would. Α. 3 MR. CAMPBELL: Your Honor, I have one additional question that's not in the direct that 4 5 relates to the exhibit that Mr. Slusser put in. 6 HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: Go ahead. 7 MR. CAMPBELL: I'll ask that at this time. 8 Q. (By Mr. Campbell) On Complainant's 9 Exhibit 1, there's a statement that suggests that gas transfers were made from 1740, which I believe 10 11 relates to 1740 Westwood Circle, to 431 North Market 12 Street. Was a balance from 1740 Westwood Circle ever 13 transferred to 431 North Market Street? 14 Α. No. 15 Was a balance from 1740 Westwood Circle Q. 16 ever transferred to 319 Spring Street? 17 Α. No. And finally, was a balance from 18 Q. 1740 Westwood ever transferred to 439 North Market 19 20 Street? 21 MR. CAMPBELL: Thank you, your Honor. The 22 witness is available for cross-examination. 23 HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: Do you have any

questions for this witness on cross-examination,

Mr. Slusser?

25 MR. JEFF SLUSSER: Yeah. And there was a

MR. CAMPBELL: Is this your exhibit?

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transfer to Westwood, and I got down where like I
1
2
     don't know where that thing came from but then --
                 MR. CAMPBELL: I don't know that she's
3
     going to answer that question. This is the first
4
5
     time we received this today.
6
                 HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: Okay. What are
7
     you reading from, Mr. Slusser?
8
                 MR. JEFF SLUSSER: I'm reading from the
9
     one gas bill that went to 1740.
10
                 HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: Is that part of
11
     Complainant's Exhibit 1?
12
                 MR. SAM SLUSSER: Right. Correct.
13
                 HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: What page is
14
     that?
15
                 MR. SAM SLUSSER: About page 15.
16
                 HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: Okay. Go ahead
17
     and ask your questions.
                 (By Mr. Jeff Slusser) Well, I was trying
18
     Q.
19
     to -- just like at 1740 Westwood Circle, there was a
20
     transfer of $17,668; and it was transferred to 1740
21
     Westwood Circle. And then at the bottom, it says
22
     there will be a shutoff notice on April the 8th. And
23
     the 17 -- the 1,768 has nothing to do with that
24
     property. This is part of the problem that I'm
25
     having with going back to 665 North Bever.
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1 MR. CAMPBELL: Your Honor, I'm going to 2 object. This is argumentative. He's not asking 3 questions. HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: You have to ask 4 5 her a question, and then she gets to respond. 6 MR. CAMPBELL: I mean, Mr. Slusser has had 7 an opportunity to present his case. If he doesn't 8 have any questions for the witness, we can excuse the 9 witness. It just seems -- I just think he needs to 10 understand that you have the opportunity now to ask 11 Ms. Edwards questions right now concerning her direct testimony. So if you don't have any questions, it's 12 13 not a time to just present your view of the facts 14 again. 15 MR. JEFF SLUSSER: I don't think -- well, 16 what I would like to know --17 HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: You've got to 18 ask a question. You can't testify now. 19 MR. SAM SLUSSER: Ask her a question. 20 MR. JEFF SLUSSER: You ask it. 21 HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: You have to ask 22 the questions, Mr. Slusser. 23 MR. JEFF SLUSSER: All right. 24 Q. (By Mr. Jeff Slusser) What I would like

to know is where \$1,768 comes from on this bill.

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MR. SAM SLUSSER: She has it.
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2
                 I have a copy. That bill is from March of
     Α.
     2009. I can't say offhand without further research.
3
                 MR. JEFF SLUSSER: That's my problem.
4
5
                 MR. SAM SLUSSER: No further questions.
6
                HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: Anything
7
     further?
                MR. CAMPBELL: I have no redirect.
8
9
                HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: No redirect.
     You're excused. Do you have any other witnesses?
10
11
                MR. CAMPBELL: No, we don't.
12
                HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: Anything else to
13
     bring up today?
14
                MR. CAMPBELL: I guess we just need to set
15
     a briefing schedule.
                HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: What I'll do is
16
     admit all exhibits into evidence at this time.
17
                  (EXHIBITS ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE.)
18
19
                 HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: I'll consider
     the matter submitted on the record. I thank you for
20
21
     coming.
22
                 MR. JEFF SLUSSER: Thank you.
23
                 MR. CAMPBELL: Will there be briefing
24
     or --
25
                 HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: Let's have a
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little discussion here. Do you want to file briefs? 1 2 MR. CAMPBELL: I mean, if you believe it 3 would be necessary. We don't -- we believe our testimony sets forth our position pretty well; but if 4 5 briefing would assist the Commission, that's fine. 6 HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: Why don't we do 7 that. 8 MR. CAMPBELL: Would it be possible to 9 schedule them due in January, given the holidays? HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: I don't have my 10 calendar with me. What's the second Friday in 11 12 January? 13 MR. WILLIAMS: January 11. HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: January 11. 14 15 Would that be sufficient? 16 MR. CAMPBELL: Would it be possible maybe to do one more week? There's two weeks that are 17 18 pretty severely interrupted by the holidays. 19 HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: We could do 20 another week, if you want. 21 MR. CAMPBELL: So the 18th? 22 HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: The 18th. Okay. 23 Let me go over this with you. The company is going 24 to file a brief by January the 18th. Now, I don't 25 expect you guys to file a legal brief because you're

not attorneys; but you can file a statement of your 1 2 case, if you want to. You list what you consider to 3 be the facts and any supporting legal opinions that you can put in there. That will be due January 18. 4 5 MR. SAM SLUSSER: Okay. That's a Friday. 6 HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: You don't have to file one. Now, I'm going to expect one from the 7 company. If your decision is you want to file a 8 9 statement of your case, you can do that. Just make sure your case number is on it, and make sure it goes 10 11 to the Docketing Department of the Commission --12 MR. SAM SLUSSER: Okay. 13 HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: -- which is on this floor. Just address it, and make sure your case 14 15 number is on it. 16 (Discussion held off the record.) 17 HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: Okay. Let's go 18 back on the record. We've agreed to file 19 simultaneous briefs and/or a statement of the case, 20 the company's and complainant's case, here by 21 January 18. 22 MR. SAM SLUSSER: Okay. 23 MR. JEFF SLUSSER: Okay.

HEARING EXAMINER SHEETS: Thank you.

MR. CAMPBELL: Thank you, your Honor.

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53
 1
                 MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you.
 2
                 (The hearing was concluded at 11:42 a.m.)
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## CERTIFICATE

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of the proceedings taken by me in this matter on Tuesday, December 11, 2012, and carefully compared with my original stenographic notes.

Margaret A. Marsh, Registered Professional Reporter.

(MM-79)

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Case No(s). 12-1259-GA-CSS

Summary: Transcript of Jeff Slusser v The East Ohio Gas Company hearing held on 12/11/12 electronically filed by Mrs. Jennifer Duffer on behalf of Armstrong & Okey, Inc. and Margaret Marsh